



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

March 7, 2007

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*To improve health
through leadership,
service and education*

TO: Health Deputies

FROM: Bruce A. Chernof, M.D. 
Director and Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: **REQUEST FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES AT VALLEYCARE**

This is to advise you that the Department of Health Services (DHS) is requesting the Internal Services Department (ISD) to issue three purchase orders for the provision of consultant services at ValleyCare/Olive View-UCLA Medical Center related to preparation of Joint Commission (formerly known as "JCAHO") survey.

As you know, the Department is placing significant emphasis on its accreditation and certification readiness activities. In addition to the tracers and rounds that are conducted on a regular basis by facility personnel, a critical component of an ongoing readiness program is the use of outside consultants to perform an unbiased review of the facility's operations and to make recommendations for improvement in order to improve the organization's preparations for its next Joint Commission survey.

The Joint Commission now conducts its surveys on an unannounced basis and ValleyCare's next Joint Commission survey is due to occur by next spring. In order to ensure sufficient time to resolve any identified deficiencies, a mock survey is conducted a year before the anticipated survey. This provides the opportunity to develop any necessary corrective actions and to collect the required 12-month worth of related data history for submission to the Joint Commission.

To identify qualified consultants to perform this review, ValleyCare utilized the University Healthcare Consortium (UHC) list of approved vendors to identify three former Joint Commission surveyors – a physician, nurse, and administrator – to perform a three day on-site mock Joint Commission survey of ValleyCare facilities. Each of these individuals worked formerly as a surveyor for the Joint Commission and has considerable expertise in their area of specialization. The amounts of the purchase order amounts are \$6,195 for the physician, \$5,700 for the administrator, and \$5,385 for the nurse.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

BAC:mds

c: Dave Lambertson
Melinda Anderson

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